



# Borough of Redcar

---

1950

## ANNUAL REPORTS

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

H. PATTINSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Wm. TUTIN, A.R.S.I., M.I.P.C., M.S.I.A., M.I.H.



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Public Health Department,  
"Teeswold,"  
Coatham Road,  
Redcar.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Redcar**

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my first Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough.

During the year 1950 the Public Health Department of the Borough suffered a great loss in the untimely death of the Medical Officer of Health, the late Dr. N. M. Macdonald, during the month of May. The tragic suddenness of his death is all the more deplorable in that, after only three years in Redcar, his influence was already strong and he had already built up the congenial relationships with all classes and agencies which are so essential in efforts to improve communal health and social conditions.

From May to December, Dr. M. D. Cairns, Assistant County and School Medical Officer, acted as Medical Officer of Health, over and above her ordinary duties, and this service was of the utmost value in preserving continuity of the work and policy of the Department until I took up my duties on the 1st December, 1950.

In these rather difficult circumstances, the help of Alderman Gillingham, Chairman of the Health Committee, and of the members of that Committee has been a great encouragement. To the heads of other Departments I am indebted for much helpful advice, while Mr. William Tutin, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, whose report follows mine, has, by his never failing co-operation, smoothed my path considerably. Finally I wish to thank the staff of my own Department who have kept the ship afloat during this difficult year.





### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) ...	...	...	...	...	...	7,035
Population (Registrar General's Estimate for Mid-1950) ...						27,500
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...		8,093
Rateable value ...	...	...	...	...	...	£186,250
Sum represented by a penny rate		...	...	...		£735

\* \* \*

TABLE I

### VITAL STATISTICS

		Male	Female	Total		
<b>Live Births</b>	...	232	208	440	— Rate per 1,000 of the population	16
Legitimate	...	225	201	426		
Illegitimate	...	7	7	14		
<b>Still Births</b>						
Legitimate	...	4	6	10	— Rate per 1,000 (live and still)	
Illegitimate	...	Nil	1	1	births ...	25
Deaths from puerperal causes				Nil	— Rate per 1,000 total births	Nil
Deaths from other maternal causes				Nil	— Rate per 1,000 total births	Nil
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year of age	...	...		15	— Rate per 1,000 live births	34.1
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year of age	...			Nil	— Rate per 1,000 live births	Nil
Deaths from enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	...			Nil	— Rate per 1,000 live births	Nil
Notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia				1	— Rate per 1,000 total births	2.2

TABLE II

**BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, AND  
CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1950**

Rates per 1,000 of the Civilian Population

		Redcar	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
<b>Births</b>						
Live births	...	*16.6	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8
Still births	...	0.4	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36
<b>Deaths</b>						
All causes	...	*12.7	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid (Enteric Fever)		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	0.07	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	...	0.28	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39
Influenza	...	0.07	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07
Pneumonia	...	0.25	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48
Acute Poliomyelitis		0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
<b>Notifications</b>						
Typhoid	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid	...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection		0.00	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever	...	0.76	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23
Whooping Cough	...	5.89	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21
Diphtheria	...	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03
Erysipelas	...	0.16	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17
Smallpox	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Measles	...	22.15	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57
Pneumonia	...	0.62	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50
Acute Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	...	0.16	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08
Acute Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	...	0.00	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05
Food Poisoning	...	0.00	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25

\* Corrected Birth and Death Rates



TABLE III

## DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

					Male	Female
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...		7	1
Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...		—	—
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...		1	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...		—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...		—	2
Meningococcal infections	...	...	...		—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...		—	—
Measles	...	...	...		—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...		—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...		5	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...		4	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...		—	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...		—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...		16	16
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...		—	—
Diabetes	...	...	...		1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...		18	29
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...		28	11
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...		3	4
Other heart disease	...	...	...		43	44
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...		4	6
Influenza	...	...	...		1	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...		4	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...		4	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...		—	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...		1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...		—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...		2	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...		1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...		—	—
Congenital malformations	...	...	...		1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...		22	21
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...		1	—
All other accidents	...	...	...		1	3
Suicide	...	...	...		2	1
Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...		—	—
					<hr/>	<hr/>
				<b>All causes</b>	170	165
					<hr/>	<hr/>

TABLE IV

## INFANT DEATHS

Rate per 1,000 Live Births

	Redcar	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
<b>Deaths</b>					
All causes under 1 year of age ... ..	34.1	29.8	33.8	29.4	26.3
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years ...	Nil	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0

\* \* \*

## COMMENTARY ON STATISTICS

## Infant Deaths

During the past year the number of Infant Deaths showed a small increase, bringing the rate just above the general level for England and Wales, but the fact that no infant deaths under the age of two years were caused from Enteritis or Diarrhoea is a compensating factor.

Over 80% of the deaths occurred in the neo-natal period and in more than 50% the prime cause was prematurity, the other deaths being due to Atelectasis, Congenital Malformations, Lobar Pneumonia and Meningitis.

**Table IV** lists the deaths from all causes under various headings, the usual predominance of Circulatory and Malignant Diseases is apparent. Tuberculosis deaths are down a little despite the increased notifications. The most satisfactory feature is the absence of deaths from diphtheria, poliomyelitis, and puerperal disease.

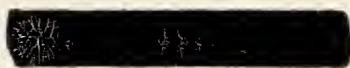
The birth-rate remained slightly higher than the rate for England and Wales but the death rate was also markedly higher during the year.

### NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

			1950 Population 27,500	1949 Population 27,310	1948 Population 27,100	1947 Population 26,650
Scarlet Fever	...	...	21	42	39	87
Diphtheria	...	...	1	1	0	0
Enteric Fever	...	...	0	0	0	1
Measles	...	...	609	91	107	397
Whooping Cough	...	...	162	41	75	53
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1	0	0	1
Erysipelas	...	...	4	1	4	9
Pneumonia	...	...	17	12	26	17
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	0	0	1	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	4	1	1	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	21	12	24	16
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	1	2	2	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	0	0	1	0
Dysentery	...	...	3	0	0	0

There were no deaths from measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria.

\* \* \*



\* \* \*

### NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1950

Male Age Groups								Female Age Groups								
0-	10-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	Tot.	0-	10-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	Tot.	Tot.
—	—	1	3	2	4	1	11	2	—	6	1	1	1	—	11	22

21 Pulmonary

1 Non-pulmonary

\* \* \*

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

			1950	1949	1948	1947
Full Course	...	...	301	459	475	239
Reinforcing dose	...	...	253	394	268	160
			<u>554</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>743</u>	<u>399</u>



## **INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

The chief feature of note was a widespread outbreak of measles and, to a lesser degree, whooping cough. I am glad to report that there were no fatal cases. In the young child, whooping cough is a serious disease which merits more concern from parents than it sometimes receives. It is still possible on occasions, to hear typical whooping spasms on public transport which shows a deplorable lack of public spirit among the parents concerned.

### **ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS**

Four cases of this disease were reported during the year, but none of these were fatal. Holiday resorts are, of course, particularly liable to the importation of this disease from other areas. In the present state of our knowledge preventive measures are uncertain and difficult to apply, while they must always be balanced against the creation of unreasonable panic in the district. While not attempting to minimise the serious consequences which may follow this infection it should be pointed out that, in this same year, nine children under the age of fourteen were seriously injured in accidents occurring in the Borough.

### **PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS**

Notifications were nearly double those of the previous year but not as high as in 1948. Figures since the last war have oscillated violently and no obvious trend is yet apparent but there can obviously be no room for complacency. Good nutrition and housing remain as important factors, but there are grounds for hope that during the next decade preventive inoculation may begin to have a beneficial effect in selected cases. In the meantime, the greatest single danger is from ambulant infective cases, usually of advanced years, who live in close contact with young children and young adults. The local After-Care Committee have continued to do most valuable work.

### **DIPHTHERIA**

One case was reported in an adolescent who had previously been immunised. This is an unusual occurrence but not exceptional. The virulence of the particular type of organism may, in some cases, overcome the artificial immunity induced in early childhood but it is quite exceptional for such cases to have a fatal infection, and this case made a complete recovery uninterrupted by any of the serious complications of the disease. The source of the infection could not be traced and no further cases were reported.

### **SCARLET FEVER**

This disease continues to decline. It appears that the organism responsible is gradually losing its power to produce the typical rash which is a requisite for notification. Its power to produce infectious sore throat, however, does not seem to have waned to the same extent, and this condition, from the point of view of spread and the possibility of infection of food handlers, may cause anxiety in the future.

## VACCINATION

At the present time, the number of infants under the age of one year who are vaccinated, is just under 20% of the total annual births in the Borough. This figure is not good enough. Let us remember the recent outbreak of smallpox in one of our cities and ask ourselves what would happen in Redcar if someone arrived by air from the East only a few days after contracting smallpox? That person could walk the streets for over a week before sickening and in his wanderings, four out of every five infants with whom he came in contact would be totally unprotected against an attack of smallpox.

\* \* \*

## INFESTATION

Scabies and Pediculosis Capitis have for many years provided the bulk of cases, but it can now be said that the former is a rarity in this locality.

In my view, this is partly due to the fact that the itchmite makes its presence felt in no uncertain fashion and the sufferers or those in charge of them are therefore encouraged to take that little amount of trouble which is necessary to rid them of their guests. The louse unfortunately creates less disturbance to his host, particularly if infestation is of long standing or frequently repeated. There is no doubt that there are not a few parents in the Borough who would not take any notice of their children's heads if the School Nurse or Health Visitor did not draw their attention to the matter and too many parents will not give up the small amount of time necessary to cleanse their children, but spend it in a fruitless attempt at self justification in the face of the established evidence. These are unpalatable facts, but it is only by bringing them to light and building up in the community at large a detestation of neglect and dirty habits that pressure of public opinion may assist in the education of recalcitrant parents.

It is not suggested that Redcar is any worse than any other area in respect of the number of cases reported, but there is a hard core of irresponsibles who go on from year to year without any parental co-operation in preventing a recurrence of infestation.

\* \* \*

## HEALTH EDUCATION

Propaganda chiefly by posters and leaflets was carried on during the year and it is hoped that in future more use may be made of films and film strips. It is difficult to assess results in this field, but as a newcomer to the district my impression is that the people in general are showing a wholesome interest in the various topics which are brought to their notice.

There is however, a feeling that this form of education is chiefly studied by those who are already converted to hygienic ways of living, and it is my opinion that preaching to the unconverted is best done informally by the spoken word, although formal lectures may be of some benefit.

It is in the field of informal propaganda that members of the Health Committee can render great service in their contacts throughout the Borough and thereby reinforce the efforts of the Health Department.



## CLINIC FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN REDCAR

Details of various clinics held in the area are given below :—

### **No. 5 Turner Street, Redcar**

Ante-natal Clinic—Tuesdays 1-0 p.m.

Post-natal Clinic—Fourth Wednesday in month, 10-0 a.m.

Child Welfare Sessions—Thursdays, 2-0 p.m.

Minor Ailments Clinics for school and pre-school children—  
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9-30 a.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation—Mondays, 9-30 a.m.

Orthopædic Consultant's Clinics—Twice monthly, Thursdays, 10-30 a.m.

Dental Sessions—As and when arranged.

Speech Clinics—Every Tuesday, 9-0 a.m.

Ophthalmic Consultant's Sessions—Friday, 2-0 p.m. (by appointment).

Other clinics held in the town are :—

### **Dormanstown Methodist Schoolroom**

Ante-natal Clinic—Thursday fortnightly, 1-30 p.m.

Child Welfare Sessions—Every Wednesday, 2-0 p.m.

### **Dormanstown Infants School**

Diphtheria Immunisation—Second Thursday in each month, 10-0 a.m.

## HOUSING

	1950	1949	1948
Permanent Houses completed by the Local Authority ...	118	128	118
Permanent Houses completed by Private Builders ...	13	4	13
Temporary houses completed by the Local Authority ...	Nil	Nil	25
Aged Persons houses completed by the Local Authority	Nil	Nil	6
	<hr/> 131	<hr/> 132	<hr/> 162
Permanent Houses under construction by Local Authority at end of year ... ..	72	126	126
Permanent Houses under construction by Private Builders at end of year ... ..	6	10	Nil
Temporary Houses under construction by Local Authority at end of year ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Aged Persons houses under construction by Local Authority at end of year ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<hr/> 78	<hr/> 136	<hr/> 126
Total number of applicants for Houses at 31st Dec., 1950	1208	1150	1013
Total number of applicants for Aged Persons homes at end of year ... ..	166	109	116
Total number of applicants for Huts at 31st December, 1950	43	48	Nil

Despite all efforts, the need for houses is almost as great as ever within the Borough. This position is partly due to the situation of the Borough on the fringe of a large industrial area with an increasing population. Many applicants do not work within the Borough boundaries, but have taken any form of accommodation they could get. After a fruitless search for better accommodation, the local authority is approached and the waiting list is further swollen. Every effort is made to help cases of hardship arising from ill health, but these efforts are largely frustrated by the enormous number of applicants who are able to produce some evidence of ill health, so that, with the exception of the most severe infectious cases who are liable to spread their infection to other members of the community, it is not usually possible to recommend any degree of priority. While conceding that this state of affairs appears to be inevitable at the present time, it must never be forgotten that all these cases are still with us and that, in the majority of them, their inability to obtain a house adds a state of mental anxiety to whatever physical defect they already possess. The part which inadequate housing plays in the present lack of that feeling of well-being among so many people, is a factor which cannot be over-emphasised, as positive mental health is a prerequisite for positive physical health and for the ability of each and every one of us to live the fullest life of which we are capable.

## **WATER SUPPLIES**

Supplies continue to be drawn from the same three sources as previously—our own reservoir, the Tees Valley Water Board and the Cleveland Water Company.

Examples of the findings of bacteriological and chemical analyses are given in the following tables and apart from the hardness of some of the samples the results were satisfactory.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the details of water analyses.



# REPORTS ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SAMPLES FROM VARIOUS POINTS ON THE SUPPLY

Date of Sample	Where taken	Colonies from 1 c.c. on Agar in 3 days at —20° C.	Colonies from 1 c.c. on Agar in 2 days at —37° C.	Coliform Organisms	Cl. Welchii
6th March, 1950	16 Tod Point Road, Warrenby	5	9	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 10 ml.
6th March, 1950	12 Ely Crescent, Redcar	160	2	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
6th March, 1950	Tunnel	2	1	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
6th March, 1950	Cleveland, Upleatham	0	0	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
3rd April, 1950	Reservoir Outlet	60	0	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
1st May, 1950	Reservoir Outlet	65	0	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
7th June, 1950	90 Broadway West, Dormanstown	140	16	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 10 ml.
7th June, 1950	20 Elm Road, Redcar	12	1	Present in 100 ml. Absent from 50 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
7th June, 1950	Tunnel	120	3	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
3rd July, 1950	Reservoir Outlet	4	3	Present in 100 ml. Absent from 50 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
31st July, 1950	Reservoir Outlet	5	2	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
4th Sept., 1950	Reservoir Outlet	7	4	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
4th Sept., 1950	12 Ely Crescent, Redcar	86	130	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.
4th Sept., 1950	18 Tod Point Road, Warrenby	9	6	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 10 ml.
4th Sept., 1950	Tunnel	6	0	Absent from 100 ml.	Absent from 100 ml.

# SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF WATER SAMPLES FROM VARIOUS POINTS ON THE SUPPLY

[illegible]



ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 1950

by

W. TUTIN,  
A.R.S.I., M.I.P.C., M.S.I.A., M.I.H.,  
Certificated Meat and Food Inspector (R.S.I.),  
Chief Sanitary Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.



**ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1950****To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Redcar**

Gentlemen,

Herewith find my annual report of the work carried out by the Sanitary and Cleansing Department for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

During the year our work has been of a general routine character with special attention to housing work. Each year we find a great increase in the number of houses falling into a state of disrepair and that owners of property are very reluctant to carry out repairs other than those of an urgent character. In the majority of cases greater means of persuasion and extra following up visits are necessary even to get urgent work carried out. This in my opinion, is chiefly due to the ever increasing cost of repairs and the keeping down of house rents to a pre-war level and also to the shortage of labour for repair work caused by the extensive new building programme in progress throughout the country.

Food was kept under constant review and at the request of the Ministry of Food steps were taken towards the formation of a Clean Food Association. This was held up due to the unfortunate death of Dr. Macdonald, Medical Officer of Health. Towards the end of the year this formation was again taken up by Dr. Pattinson, Dr. Macdonald's successor. A "Basic Code of Practice" was drawn up for all food traders and meetings were held between representatives of your Health Committee and the Food Traders Association in the Borough. Our efforts were beginning to show satisfactory results towards the end of December. In connection with the inspection of Food Premises, I feel it is not necessary for me to stress the great importance of this work especially at a seaside resort like Redcar. The efficiency of this work can only be achieved by constant inspection of all food preparing and selling premises. To carry out these inspections an adequate staff of fully qualified Inspectors is necessary. In order to give one hundred per cent inspection services in the Borough of Redcar we should have another qualified Inspector on our staff.

In connection with Atmospheric Pollution, your Council are members of the National Smoke Abatement Society. In order to obtain an overall picture of the problem, it has been decided to obtain Deposit Gauges and three such gauges were ordered during the year. Delivery of these Gauges is expected in the early part of 1951.

This report is based on the Ministry of Health Circular No. 269 which calls for reports of a simple character, and more detailed reports (called Survey Reports) at intervals of not less than five years.

This is an ordinary report.

### Inspections

The following is a tabulated statement of the number of inspections made during the year under review :—

Total number of inspections ... ..	5,961
Total number of re-inspections ... ..	6,420
Total number of nuisances found (including 36 outstanding, 1949) ... ..	5,246
Total number of nuisances abated ... ..	5,216
Total number of Informal Notices (including verbal and written notices) ... ..	5,195
Total number of Statutory Notices ... ..	8
Total number of Informal Notices complied with	5,173
Total number of Statutory Notices complied with	17
Total number of Informal Notices outstanding	22
Total number of Statutory Notices outstanding	2

### Sanitary Works and Improvements

Dilapidated dust bins ... ..	211
Choked drains ... ..	412
Choked and defective eave spouts ... ..	221
Choked sewers ... ..	30
Defective flushing apparatus ... ..	61
Keeping of animals, poultry, etc., in an insanitary condition ... ..	52
Defective construction of drains ... ..	16
Dirty condition of dwellinghouses ... ..	94
Dirty condition of water-closets, urinals, etc. ... ..	70
Accumulation of rubbish ... ..	102
Defective roofs ... ..	111
Dirty condition of yards ... ..	21
Defective floors of dwellinghouses ... ..	34
Defective and insanitary condition of sinks ... ..	9
Defective W.C. basins ... ..	12
Choked street gullies ... ..	162
Defective set-pots ... ..	8
Defective paving of yards ... ..	10
Defective fire-places ... ..	17
Premises in a verminous condition ... ..	109
Overcrowded condition of premises ... ..	110
Choked and defective rain-water pipes ... ..	41
Broken plaster work ... ..	32
Premises in need of lime-washing ... ..	12
Offensive smells ... ..	714
Insufficient sink accommodation ... ..	8
Defective construction of windows ... ..	24
External walls requiring repointing ... ..	276
Choked and defective waste pipes ... ..	92
Defective and dangerous condition of outbuildings	2

### Infectious Diseases and Disinfection

Number of infected houses inspected ... ..	19
Number of infected houses disinfected ... ..	19
Number of schools disinfected ... ..	8
Number of classrooms disinfected ... ..	52



**Factories and Workshops**

Number of Inspections of factories and workshops	172
Number of nuisances found ... ..	17
Number of nuisances abated ... ..	17
Number of complaints from H.M. Inspector ...	8

**Bakehouses**

Number of Bakehouses on Register ... ..	34
Number of notifications received from H.M. Inspector	5
Number of notifications dealt with ... ..	5
Number of Bakehouses added to Register ...	Nil
Number of Bakehouses removed from Register	Nil
Number of nuisances discovered and dealt with	11
Number of inspections ... ..	204

**Dairies and Milkshops**

Number on Register ... ..	35
Number discontinued during the year ...	Nil
Number registered during the year ... ..	Nil
Number of Inspections ... ..	242
Number of notices dealt with ... ..	9

**Public Conveniences**

All the Public Conveniences throughout the Borough have been cleansed with a disinfectant solution daily, those in the main part of the town are done twice each day. There is still considerable damage done to the walls and fittings of our Public Conveniences chiefly in the unattended premises. Little progress was made during the year with the proposed schemes suggested for improvement of our Conveniences. This has been due in the main to the difficult problem of finance. Each year our Conveniences on the Promenade and near to the Bus Stations prove to be more and more inadequate. The lack of sufficient Conveniences in a holiday resort is, especially when the influx of holiday trippers takes place, bound to result in the creating of a nuisance and a serious danger to public health. I am hoping that by another year it will have been possible to improve and increase our present facilities thereby lessening the risk as mentioned above.

**Water Supply**

There are three main sources of supply, namely :—

1. Bulk supply from the Tees Valley Water Board. This water is received at the Meter House, Lazenby Siding, at the western boundary of the Borough. It is distributed to Dormanstown and that part of the Borough west of West Dyke Road. The maximum quantity available is two million gallons in any one week, and the water is soft in character.

2. Bulk supply from the Cleveland Water Company. The supply from the Company is received at the Corporation Reservoir, Upleatham, and after mixing with other water is treated by chloramination and filtration. It is distributed to the whole or part of the Borough, as the circumstances demand from time to time. The water is soft in character and the pressure is sufficient to supply all parts of the Borough. The quantity available is 250,000 gallons per day, although during times of drought this has been considerably reduced.

3. Corporation Upleatham Reservoir. This storage reservoir is fed by an Adit



and also a Spring, together delivering approximately 250,000 gallons per day. These waters are mixed with that supplied by the Company and treated by chloramination and filtration prior to distribution to the whole or part of the Borough. The water from the Adit is very hard in character, whilst that from the Spring is soft, and the water at the outlet to the reservoir, as the result of the mixture of the two supplies, is hard in character.

### **Shops Act**

General inspections of all premises coming within the various Shops Acts and Regulations have been maintained throughout the year, with surprise visits made on Sundays under the Sunday Trading Acts. The principle of giving advice and guidance rather than prosecuting has been adhered to. The following action has been taken under the Shops Acts, 1950. Shops have been regularly inspected and the following is a summary of defects found and remedied during the year :

	<b>Number of Defects found</b>	<b>Number Remedied</b>	<b>Number Outstanding</b>
Rooms not at reasonable temperature	2	2	Nil
Lack of ventilation ... ..	2	2	Nil
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	3	3	Nil
Lack of accommodation for taking meals	2	2	Nil
Insufficient washing accommodation	4	4	Nil

### **Ice-cream Manufacturers and Dealers**

Under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, all premises used for the manufacture, sale or storage of Ice-cream have to be registered. The number on the Register in the Borough of Redcar being :—

<b>Number on Register</b>	<b>Number of Inspections</b>	<b>Number of Nuisances found</b>	<b>Number of Nuisances dealt with</b>	<b>Number of Samples taken</b>
99	176	7	7	24

During the year a large increase of dealers have been registered to sell pre-packed ices. In all cases these sales take place direct from a refrigerator supplied by the manufacturers.

Samples have been taken and submitted to the County Laboratories at Northallerton for analysis. A copy of these results was forwarded to each manufacturer and followed up by visits to the factories and interviews with the manufacturers. Methods of manufacture were examined and inspections of equipment carried out. I am pleased to report that we have a very high standard of ice-cream manufactured and sold within the Borough and that close co-operation is maintained with the manufacturers and all concerned.

Premises used for the preparation and manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale :—

<b>Number on Register</b>	<b>Number of Inspections</b>	<b>Number of Nuisances found</b>	<b>Number of Nuisances dealt with</b>	<b>Number of Samples taken</b>
26	112	11	11	Nil

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**

During the year three sewer campaigns were carried out, zinc phosphide and arsenious oxide were used and sausage rusk and bread as baits. A total of 584 manholes were baited during these three campaigns. There were 164 pre-bait takes and 106 poison takes and 67 bodies were found in the manholes on the three campaigns. The best results were obtained from zinc phosphide and sausage rusk.

During the year 159 complaints of rats and 27 complaints of mice were reported to the department, several other complaints were investigated and it was found that a number had seen a rat or rats and eventually their source was traced. It is found that the public are getting more rat and mice minded each year and they are becoming very helpful to the Rodent Operator on his visits to their premises. The shop keepers throughout the year, immediately on any signs of rats and mice, have notified the department and are only too willing for the department to carry out the campaign on their premises for which we charge. All notifications and verification of rats and mice are recorded and indexed for future reference.

### **Summer Camps**

There are three Camping Grounds licensed in the Borough under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. These camps have been in use for many years and are all provided with adequate sanitary arrangements. They are well managed and are inspected periodically throughout the year. No new licences were granted during the year.

### **Disinfestation**

It was found necessary during the year to disinfest 109 houses and four huts which were found to be infested with vermin, chiefly bugs and fleas. Disinfestation was carried out by fumigation and spraying. In the case of bug infestation, walls were stripped of paper and in many cases skirting boards and picture mouldings removed before treatment. For flea infestation spraying with a D.D.T. solution was found to be effective. All cases dealt with were kept under observation and where necessary second treatments were given.

### **Disinfection of Premises**

Nineteen houses were disinfected following cases of notifiable diseases, and 23 houses were treated on request following cases of non-notifiable diseases, and schoolrooms were disinfected by spraying during vacation periods.

### **Markets**

The Market is held on the south side of Redcar High Street, Saturday being the regular market day. About twenty stalls usually occupy this site and comprise green groceries and vegetable stalls together with drapery, also sweet and sugar confectionery stalls. In addition a tripe stall and three shell fish stalls occupy positions on the site at irregular periods. Inspections are carried out on each market day. It has been found during the year that there is a considerable nuisance created from the market by paper blowing all over High Street and the scattering of vegetable waste over the surface of the road. I often wonder after taking into account the large amount of cleansing necessitated on a Saturday night and Sunday morning whether the holding of this market is worth while. During the year steps have been taken to move this market to another site. I would suggest that a set of market regulations be drawn up before another site is occupied.

### **Housing (Overcrowding)**

During the year 341 visits were made to houses reported as overcrowded and 276 following up visits carried out on behalf of the Housing Committee. Four houses were found to have again become overcrowded after steps had been taken to abate overcrowding conditions. The overcrowding in each case was abated without having to resort to legal proceedings.



### **Squatters Camps**

The two camps taken over by squatters in 1947 are gradually being closed. When families become entitled to a council house they are rehoused and as the huts are scheduled as unfit for human occupation they are demolished on becoming vacant. It will, in my opinion, be a great step forward when these two camping sites can be finally cleared up, as at present they are definite blotches on the landscape, especially the Green Lane site.

### **Places of Entertainment**

In accordance with Circular 12/1920 of the Ministry of Health, cinemas and places of entertainment were inspected during the year. It was found necessary to serve notices in two cases for insufficient sanitary conveniences. Generally speaking all our places of entertainment are in a satisfactory condition.

### **Atmospheric Pollution**

The Council are members of the National Smoke Abatement Society and during the year a new branch of this Society known as the Tees-side Smoke Abatement Society was formed. Regular meetings have been held where each Authority reports on its activities. Much mutual benefit was the result of discussions which took place. In order to form a clear picture of prevailing conditions each Authority agreed to instal Deposit Gauges. Three such gauges are on order for the Redcar area and delivery is expected during the early part of 1951. The chief sources of pollution in our area are the Warrenby coke ovens and steelworks. Interviews have been held with the managements of these works, who have promised to get down to the question of improvement. The laundry chimney, which up to the early part of this year was causing much nuisance, has improved greatly by the conversion from solid fuel to oil fuel. In respect to pollution caused by domestic chimneys which is certainly a large contributor to atmospheric pollution, it is pleasing to note that all council houses erected under the supervision of the Borough Engineer have been provided with smokeless fire grates and domestic boilers. The chief drawback to these grates is the difficulty in obtaining suitable fuels at a reasonable cost. This is a national problem and we hope only a temporary one. The question has been taken up very seriously by the Smoke Abatement Society at the highest level and it is hoped that this will smooth out existing difficulties.

### **Meat and Other Food Inspection**

In connection with food inspection it has been found necessary to carry out a general survey of all food premises as preliminary steps towards the formation of a Clean Food Association. This survey is a very extensive job and owing to inadequate staff will be a considerable time before it is completed. In compliance with the request of the Ministry of Food, the Council have agreed to adopt the Clean Food Bye-laws relating to handling, wrapping and delivering of food for sale and in the open air.

Our meat is still brought in from Middlesbrough where it is slaughtered at the Government controlled slaughterhouse. It is then delivered to the various shops in the area through the Local Butchers Association, two delivery vans being used for this purpose. These vans have, during the past year, been modernized and now lend themselves to much easier cleansing. During the year several warnings have been given to the Meat Carrier re the none use of proper head covering.

The following articles of foodstuffs were condemned during the year :—

Home killed meat	...	252 lbs.	Oatmeal	...	...	45 lbs.
Imported meat	...	466 lbs.	Cheese	...	...	14 lbs.
Fish	...	1,818 lbs.	Potatoes	...	...	224 lbs.
Rabbits	...	515 lbs.	Apple rings	...	...	18 lbs.
Fowl	...	69 lbs.	Jam	...	...	23 lbs.
Brawn	...	7½ lbs.	Figs	...	...	18 lbs.
Fish cakes	...	20	Peaches	...	...	12 lbs.
Savoury cakes	...	13	Chocolate (packets)	...	...	12 pkts.
Luncheon meat	...	57 lbs.	Coconut	...	...	4 lbs.
Sausage	...	273 lbs.	Yeast	...	...	21 lbs.
Eggs	...	495	Canned Food	...	...	413 tins
Flour	...	168 lbs.	Packed food	...	...	89 pkts.
Sausage meal	...	112 lbs.				

### **PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE**

This service includes Refuse Collection and Disposal, Street Cleansing, Gully Cleansing, Sewer Flushing and the recovery of Salvage Materials.

#### **Refuse Collection**

Over the last year there has been a big improvement in the collection service by maintaining a regular weekly collection. We have had in this department labour difficulties due chiefly to men leaving the service for jobs where more overtime can be earned. Changes of personnel of the collecting service is not a good thing as the steady routine is affected. The district continues to develop due to the completion of new housing estates. This adds to the collecting work, especially as all the new houses are of the type that entails longer carry for the bin. It is pleasing to note that we have received very few complaints in connection with our collective service during 1950.

#### **Refuse Disposal**

We are still using the tipping site situated on the Trunk Road. This will be completed by the end of the year and arrangements have been made to rent a further three acres of low lying land from Messrs. Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., for tipping purposes. Tipping is carried out on Controlled Tipping lines and in accordance with the Ministry of Health regulations. Our main difficulty during the year has been to get sufficient covering material. This position is gradually being overcome.

#### **Street Cleansing**

The cleansing of the Borough is carried out by the Beat System. This has been a bad year for sickness among the men and the absence of so many men during the flu epidemic tended to interfere with the smooth running of the cleansing service. The condition of some of our road surfaces and channels is such that cleansing efficiency is impaired. This has come about due to the extensive economy which has been exercised on road work and improvement since the war. During the year we have experimented with sweeping machines small enough to use on back streets, but have not yet found anything suitable for our requirements. Our present mechanical sweeper is too big for roads, other than main roads and front streets and this machine is fast becoming



past repair and will have to be renewed before another year. Streets and sweeping areas have been increased by the completion of new Housing Estates and an additional mechanical sweeper preferably of a smaller type than our present machine, would tend to improve the service.

### Gully Cleansing

This work is carried out by a mechanical Gully Cleansing machine which is also used for sewer flushing. All street gullies are cleansed at an average of once in eight weeks, although at times gullies along the sea front and High Street must be attended to oftener on account of choking by sand drifts.

### Cleansing Costs

The following is a summary of the costs of your public cleansing service :

#### Refuse Collection

Total number of loads	...	...	9,100
Total estimated tonnage collected	...	...	14,600
Weight of refuse per 1,000 pop. per day	...	29.09 cwts.	
Net cost per ton collected	...	...	13/10.57d.
Net cost per 1,000 pop.	...	...	£363/12/8d.
Net cost per 1,000 premises	...	...	£1,111/2/2.66d.

#### Refuse Disposal

Net cost per ton disposed	...	...	4/0.13d.
Net cost per 1,000 pop.	...	...	£106/9/5.45d.
Net cost per 1,000 premises	...	...	£325/6/8d.

#### Street Sweeping

Total sq. yds. of surface cleansed during the year	...	...	13,100,000
Net cost per 10,000 sq. yds.	...	...	£3/5/7.11d.
Net cost per 1,000 pop.	...	...	£151/16/4.14d.

#### Gully Cleansing

Total number of gullies cleansed	...	...	46,100
Net cost per 1,000 gullies	...	...	£18/19/7.31d.
Net cost per 1,000 pop.	...	...	£31/16/4.36d.

The basis of this report is as follows :—

Estimated normal population	...	...	27,500
Approximate number of premises	...	...	9,000
Tonnage collected (estimated)	...	...	146,000
Cost of refuse collection	...	...	£10,000
Cost of refuse disposal	...	...	£2,928
Cost of street cleansing	...	...	£4,175
Cost of gully cleansing	...	...	£875

### Salvage

The salvage collection is carried out by the refuse collectors at the same time as refuse is collected. All saleable waste materials are transported in trailers connected to each refuse vehicle, therefore kept separate from ordinary refuse. An incentive bonus of 20% of the total sales is equally divided between all men engaged on salvage work. All our waste paper is disposed of under contract to the Thames Board Mills who guarantee the standard price covering the next year or two.



The following is a summary of articles reclaimed during the year :—

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	363	19	0	2,259	2	8
Ferrous Metals	...	...	6	15	1	18	14	4
Non-ferrous Metals	...	...		13	2	20	6	6
Textiles	...	...	14	0	1	149	9	4
Bones	...	...	3	5	3	15	16	4
Bottles	...	...			3		3	6
Scrap Metal	...	...	15	17	0	43	11	8
Kitchen Waste	...	...	3	17	2	11	8	3
			408	9	0	£2,518	12	7

### HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year :—
  - (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 192
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 327
  - (2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 41
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 103
  - (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 5
  - (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 61
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—
  - (1) Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 171
  - (2) Number of dwellinghouses where work is in progress but not yet complete ... 21
  - (3) Number of notices in course of preparation (not yet served) ... Nil
  - (4) Number of notices outstanding ... 21
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—
  - A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
    - (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... Nil
    - (2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
      - (a) By owners ... Nil
      - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil

## B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—               |     |
| (a) By owners ... ..   | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...  | Nil |

## C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..    | 1 |

## D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..  | 3   |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. | Nil |

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and to all members of the staff and workmen of the department for their unstinted loyalty and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

W. TUTIN,

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
& CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.



